



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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GOVERNOR

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SECRETARY

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Project Engineers  
Project Design Engineers  
**FROM:** Timothy V. Rountree, P. E.  
State Bridge Design Engineer  
**DATE:** August 15, 2001  
**SUBJECT:** PAINT SYSTEMS

The 2002 Standard Specifications provide for five paint systems. As a result, it will be necessary to use a plan note to identify the appropriate paint system for each bridge.

In lieu of the notes on Page 5-5 of the Design Manual, place one of the following two notes on the plans.

For weathering steel bridges:

***All structural steel shall be AASHTO M270 Grade 345W (50W) and painted in accordance with System 4 of Article 442-7 of the Standard Specifications unless otherwise noted on the plans.***

For non-weathering steel bridges:

***All structural steel shall be AASHTO M270 Grade 345 (50) and painted in accordance with System 1 of Article 442-7 of the Standard Specifications unless otherwise noted on the plans.***

In addition, for widening, deck replacement or rehabilitation projects, the paint system to be used is dependent upon the existing paint and shall be specified on a case-by-case basis. Consult with the Engineering Development Squad for the applicable plan note or special provision.

For steel H-piles when applicable:

***The steel piles shall be painted in accordance with System 2 of Article 442-7 of the Standard Specifications. For Painting Steel Piles, see Special Provisions.***

This policy shall be effective with the January 2002 letting. The Design Manual will be revised at a later date.

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